

CLAIMS

- 1 Process for encoding speech formed from a sequence of acoustic units, in which the units are compared with library references associated with primary code words, the differences between the units and the references are determined, the differences are encoded by secondary code words and pairs of primary and secondary codes are substituted for the units.
- 2 Process according to claim 1, wherein since the comparison relates to the energies of spectra of lines of frequencies, weighting coefficients normed with respect to the energy of the reference lines are determined for the lines, and the said coefficients are integrated into the secondary code word.
- 3 Process according to claim 1, wherein the said difference is determined from a succession of spectra corresponding to a succession of amplitudes of the acoustic unit considered.
- 4 Process according to claim 3, wherein only the amplitudes corresponding to extremes are considered.
- 5 Process according to claim 2, wherein the said difference is determined from a single average spectrum of the acoustic unit considered.
- 6 Process according to claim 2, wherein the frequency comparison is limited to three frequency bands.
- 7 Process according to claim 6, wherein the weighting coefficient of the lines of each band is expressed by a single coefficient.
- 8 Terminal for encoding speech signals, comprising means (26, 27) for inputting a sequence of acoustic units and transmitting it to comparator means (16) arranged to compare successively the acoustic units with references in libraries (11, 12) and thus select therein in each instance a specific primary code word of one of the references, the terminal being characterised by the fact that the comparator means (16) are arranged to determine a difference between the input acoustic unit considered and the reference corresponding to

the code word selected and to transmit this difference to transcoding means (17) provided to supply, in response, a secondary code word corresponding to memory means (18) arranged to associate the respective primary and secondary code words.

- 9 Terminal for decoding speech signals, comprising means (30) for receiving signals representing primary code words of references of acoustic units in a library (32), and decoding means (33) arranged to select certain ones of the references in the library (32) according to the primary code words received and to control a transducer (34) for restoration of speech signals accordingly, the terminal being characterised in that the decoding means (33) are arranged also to decode secondary, correction code words associated with the primary code words, and to correct (38) the selected voice references accordingly.
- 10 Facsimile machine according to claim 8, comprising means to insert the code words into a facsimile message.